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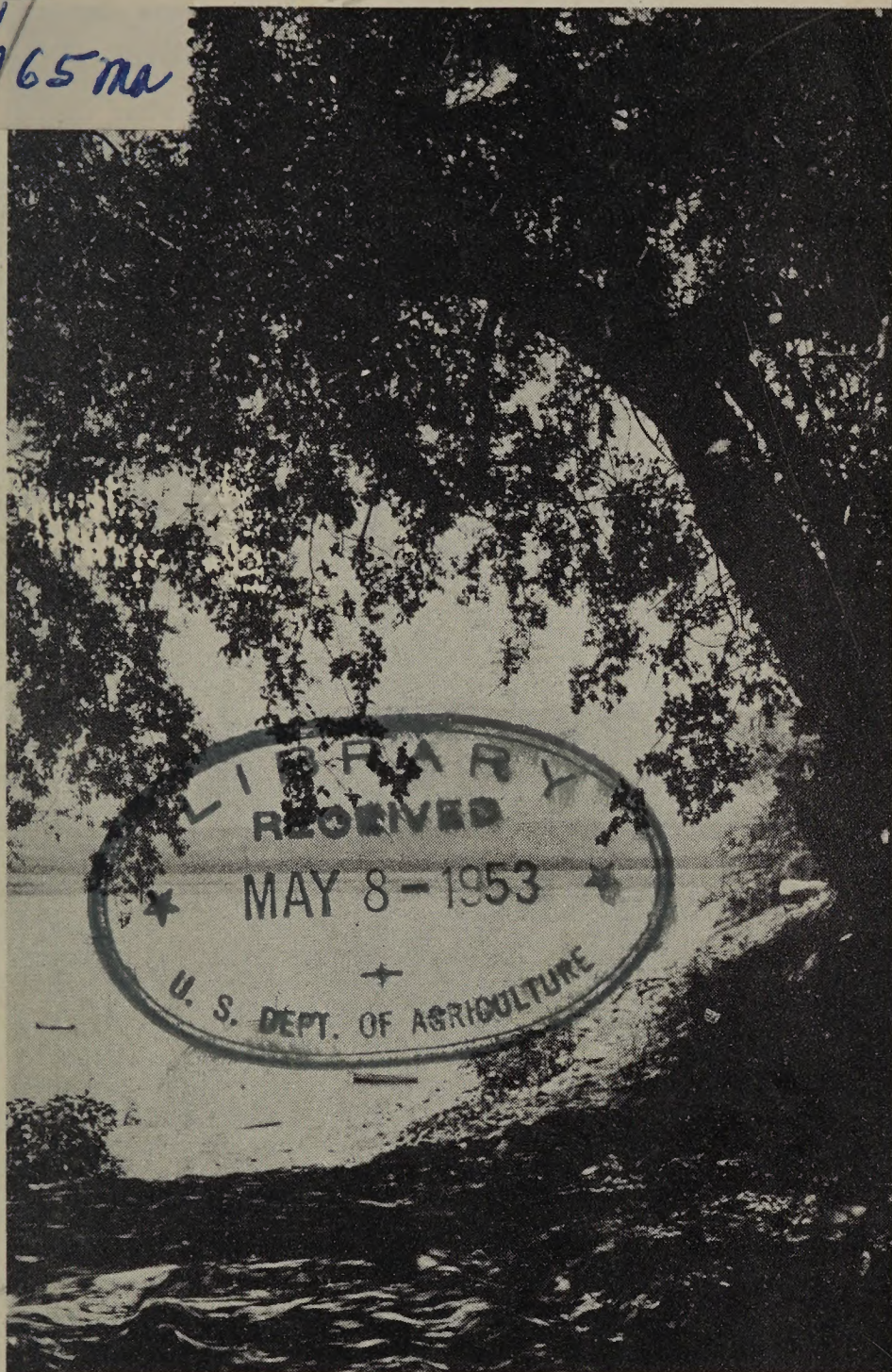
NATIONAL FOREST

ARIZONA

Map Case  
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Roosevelt Lake—View from Grapevine Spring

F-156956

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE



## *Six Rules for Preventing Fire in the Forests*

1. **Matches.**—Be sure your match is out. Break it in two before you throw it away.
2. **Tobacco.**—Be sure that pipe ashes and cigar or cigarette stubs are dead before throwing them away. Never throw them into brush, leaves, or needles.
3. **Making camp.**—Before building a fire scrape away all inflammable material from a spot 5 feet in diameter. Dig a hole in the center and in it build your camp fire. Keep your fire small. Never build it against trees or logs or near brush.



A destructive fire on a brush-covered watershed

F-194434

4. **Breaking camp.**—Never break camp until your fire is out—dead out.
5. **Brush burning.**—Never burn slash or brush in windy weather or while there is the slightest danger that the fire will get away.
6. **How to put out a camp fire.**—Stir the coals while soaking them with water. Turn small sticks and drench both sides. Wet the ground around the fire. If you can't get water, stir in earth and tread it down until packed tight over and around the fire. Be sure the last spark is dead.



## THE TONTO NATIONAL FOREST

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The Tonto National Forest, with an area of more than two and one-quarter million acres, is located in central Arizona. It includes the Sierra Ancha, Mazatzal, and Superstition mountain ranges, as well as parts of the watershed basin of the Salt River. This drainage basin is largely included in the Tonto Basin, the upper edge of which is formed by a natural barrier known as the Mogollon Rim.

While much of the mountain country on the forest supports a valuable stand of western yellow pine, Douglas fir, and white fir timber, there has been included a large area of brush or grass covered foothills reaching down into the semidesert country. This more open country was made a part of the Tonto Forest at the request of the United States Reclamation Service as a means of protecting the watersheds of the Salt River reservoirs which are used in connection with the Salt River Valley irrigation project. This project, covering up to the present time the construction of three dams at a cost of about \$18,000,000, furnishes irrigation waters for some 240,000 acres of fertile valley soil on which agricultural crops valued at more than \$25,000,000 are produced annually. In addition to the storage of irrigation water, these reservoirs supply power for large hydroelectric plants which furnish electric energy to the Salt River Valley and to the mining towns of Globe, Miami, and Superior.



## RESOURCES

The total stand of saw timber on the Tonto Forest is estimated at 593,000,000 board feet. This is mostly western yellow pine, with some Douglas fir and white fir, confined to the region under the Mogollon Rim and at the higher elevations in the Sierra



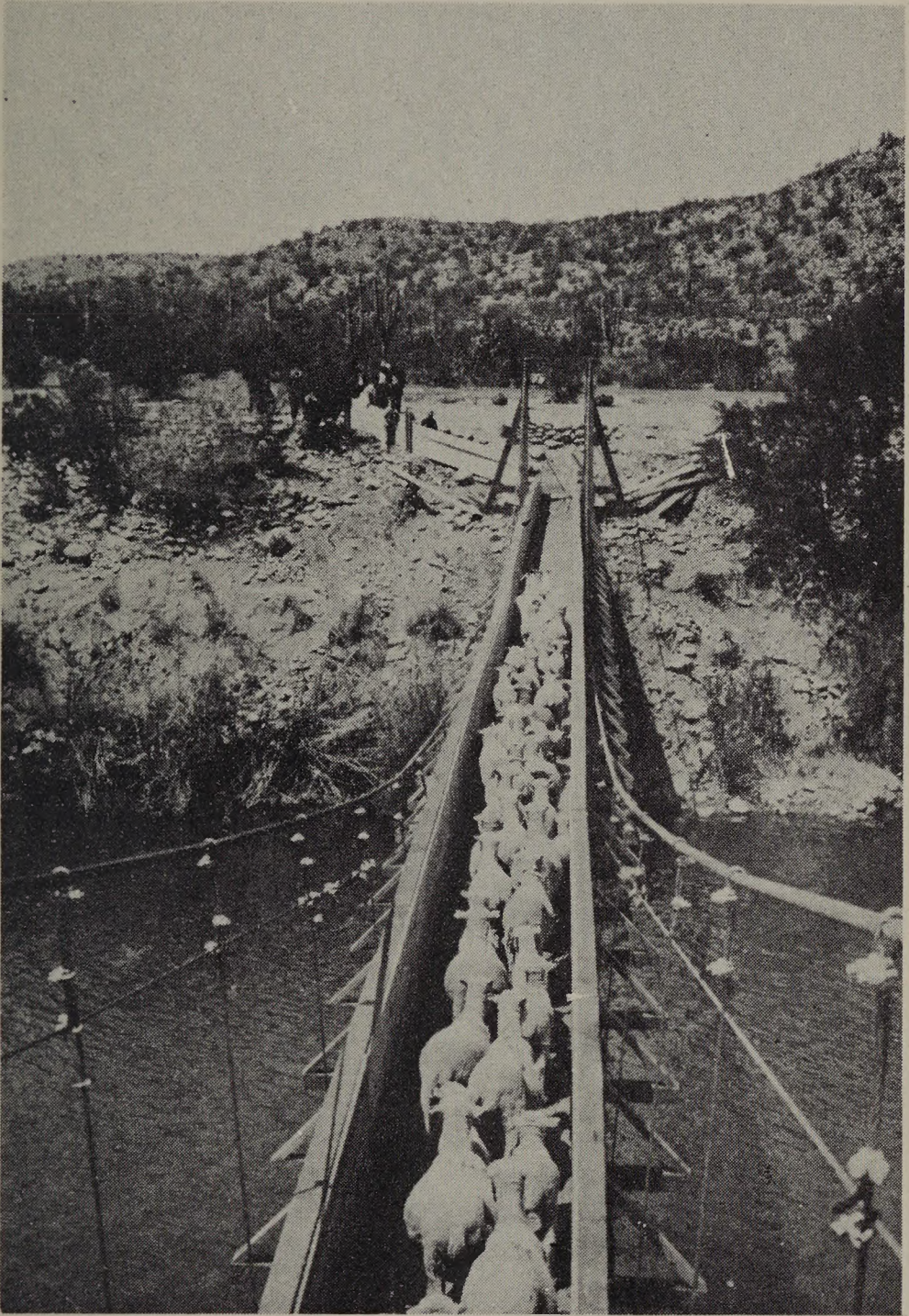
White fir timber in the Sierra Ancha Mountains

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Ancha and Mazatzal Mountains. At present this timber is inaccessible to the general market because of lack of transportation facilities. The limited local market is supplied by several small portable sawmills. In 1927 a total of 326,000 board feet was cut.



The so-called woodland type, consisting of piñon, juniper, and oak, is estimated at 1,087,000 cords. These species are valuable as fuel, posts, and poles,



**A band of sheep crossing Salt River**

**F-224409**

for local consumption. In 1927, 518 cords were sold and 2,432 cords were taken under free-use permits.

The forage is an important resource on this forest. In 1927 it supported 50,000 cattle, 67,000 sheep, and



400 head of horses, which grazed under permit from the Forest Service. The revenue from this use amounted to \$40,000 in that year, and one-fourth of it was returned to the local counties for roads and schools. Some parts of the forest are used chiefly during early spring, when there is a growth of short-lived plants which furnish excellent forage. Perennial shrubs and grasses supply feed on other types of range during the summer, fall, and winter periods.

The proper control and use of the range in the Salt River watershed portion of the Tonto National Forest has an important bearing on the amount of silting which occurs. This factor has been considered carefully and grazing management plans have been drawn with a view to insuring the greatest possible protection to the watershed.

### ADMINISTRATION

For the convenient and proper administration of the forest, the Tonto is divided into eight ranger districts, each directly in charge of a ranger, who has his headquarters on the district. The rangers and the forest as a whole are under the direction of a forest supervisor and an assistant forest supervisor, who have headquarters at Phoenix, Ariz. The regular force of district rangers is augmented in the spring and early summer by a force of guards and lookout men employed during the season of forest-fire hazard.

Lookout stations on McFadden and Colcord Peaks and Diamond Point are connected by telephone with the headquarters of the local district ranger so that fires may be reported promptly.





U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
R. V. STUART, FORESTER

# TONTO NATIONAL FOREST

## ARIZONA

### GILA AND SALT RIVER MERIDIAN

1928



Besides forest-fire detection and suppression, a district ranger has a wide variety of duties. Among these are the supervision of grazing on the forest range, and the construction and maintenance of trails and secondary or local roads, telephone lines, and other improvements. The duties of the ranger take him into all parts of his district and he is therefore able to give reliable information to travelers.

The ranger districts on the forest, with the address of each, are as follows:

Salt River District, Roosevelt, Ariz.

Pine District, Pine, Ariz.

Pleasant Valley District, Young, Ariz.

Payson District, Payson, Ariz.

Sierra Ancha District, Globe, Ariz.

Cave Creek District, Cave Creek, Ariz.

Verde District, P. O. Box 516, Mesa, Ariz.

Mazatzal District, Roosevelt, Ariz.

#### POINTS OF INTEREST ON OR NEAR THE TONTO NATIONAL FOREST

The three reservoirs on the Salt River formed by dams built for irrigation and water power are an outstanding scenic feature of the Southwest. Beginning with the Roosevelt, the largest of the three, the waters pass next over Apache Lake above the Horse Mesa Dam, and finally reach Canyon Lake above the Mormon Flat Dam, forming a continuous body of water fully 40 miles long in a semidesert country where water means life. The azure hue of the

**EVERYBODY LOSES WHEN TIMBER BURNS**



sparkling lake waters is in vivid contrast with the drab colors of the surrounding desert, and the water pouring over the spillways or through the outlet valves below the dams is a refreshing sight. In the lower country the breezes blowing off the waters tend also to reduce the high summer temperatures.

### **The Tonto Natural Bridge**

At the northern end of the Tonto Basin, near the settlement of Pine, is the Tonto Natural Bridge. It is formed of calcareous rock resting on limestone walls. The top of the span is nearly 400 feet in width north and south, while the ends of the bridge are from 125 to 150 feet above Pine Creek. The width of the arch varies from 100 to 150 feet.

In the canyon walls under and beyond the bridge proper are a number of caves. Some are formed of silicate with glistening white stalagmites and stalactites. Above the bridge there is a small waterfall where articles placed in the spray become impregnated with silica, and while retaining their form, become in weight and appearance like the stone itself.

### **THE MOGOLLON RIM**

A few miles to the north of the natural bridge is the Mogollon Rim, which forms the upper line of the Tonto Basin and the northern boundary of the Tonto National Forest. This escarpment rises from a few hundred feet to a thousand feet above the woodland foothills to a pine and fir crested plateau. In winter the contrast is especially interesting, as the lower country at the base of the rim is often free from



snow, while up above the trees are crested with hoar frost and the upper edge of the cliffs is sharply outlined by heavy patches and drifts of dazzling white snow.

The old military road along the upper edge of the Mogollon Rim, which was used in pioneer days for travel between the Army posts of Fort Apache on the east and Camp Verde on the west, can scarcely be traversed by automobiles in its present state, but it is well worth a horseback trip for the sake of the view.

### HISTORY

The Spaniards discovered this region in 1540. In pioneer times raids by Apaches and other warlike tribes were common. The rough character of the country and the general lack of water and subsistence for man and beast gave the raiding Indians great advantage over the soldiers. Much of the travel between two important Army posts of the early days was maintained over the Fort Apache-Camp Verde wagon road on top of the Mogollon Rim, on what is now the Coconino National Forest. In the eighties one of the bloodiest feuds in the West, the Pleasant Valley War, was waged between cattle and sheep men almost to the extermination of both factions, a total of fifteen lives being lost in the sanguinary conflict.

Evidences of a prehistoric people who inhabited this region are found over the entire forest. Picture writings, bits of brightly colored pottery, remains of terraces, reservoirs, irrigation ditches, as well as fragments of sandals, bone awls, arrowheads, and



similar objects are mute evidences of a fairly large population in prehistoric days.

The most accessible prehistoric ruins are those on the Tonto National Monument, a few miles to the



Cliff dwellings near Roosevelt

F-152226

east of Roosevelt post office, just off the Roosevelt-Globe Highway. The ruins are situated in two drainage areas, the one lying to the southwest of the



auto road being the most frequented by tourists, as it can be reached by trail. The other ruin lies on the west side of the canyon and can be reached only by a scramble over a steep, rocky slope. In the wash below and to the east of this cliff ruin is a spring of cool, clear water which has now been developed for the use of range stock.

Both of the ruins show signs of late Indian occupancy, but are undoubtedly of prehistoric origin. They consist of two and three storied walls of adobe, with the supporting beams and lintels of windows and low doors still in place.

## **FIRE**

Since a large proportion of the Tonto National Forest is either grass-covered land or brushy slopes where the amount of inflammable litter is large, it is very important that great care be taken to prevent fires. Most of the forest fires in the past have been caused by camp fires left burning or by unextinguished matches or tobacco dropped on the forest floor. Fires started in such ways are preventable, since they are caused by carelessness or intentional disregard of public safety.

Before building a camp fire, always clear away all rubbish and dry material for a distance of two or three feet from the spot where the fire is to be built. Then dig a trench about 18 inches long, 12 inches wide, and 8 inches deep. A fire may be easily built in this trench, and there is very little danger that a sudden gust of wind will blow the sparks into the surrounding litter. When leaving camp, bury the



fire under fresh earth devoid of twigs and needles, or drench it thoroughly with water.

Lighted matches and cigarette stubs should be pinched out, and pipe heels should be deposited only in places where there is no inflammable material.

The practice of these safeguards will keep the forest green to enjoy from year to year. If a fire is accidentally started it can usually be put out while small with very little difficulty. If, however, the fire becomes too large to be handled, the local ranger should be notified promptly. Since the national forests are public property, any service rendered in their protection is not only a public duty but a public benefit as well.



**PREVENT FOREST FIRES—IT PAYS**

**BE CAREFUL WITH YOUR MATCH, YOUR CIGARETTE, AND YOUR CAMP FIRE**



